

Appln. No. 10/025,104
Amendment dated December 9, 2003
Reply to Office Action dated June 9, 2003

Amendments To The Specification

Please replace the paragraph that begins on page 8 and ends on page 9 with the following amended paragraph:

91 Referring now to FIGS. 3 and 4, the invention provides a system that avoids mounting removable fasteners to shutters to secure storm bars. The storm bar [[38]] 36 can instead be secured to the shutters 12 according to the invention using storm bar clips 40.

Please replace the third full paragraph on page 10 with the following amended paragraph:

92 Once the storm bar clips 40 are positioned in the shutters 12, the clips 40 can be secured to the storm bar [[38]] 36 with fasteners 60 such as bolts with wing nuts. FIG. 4 illustrates that once the clips 40 are mounted in oppositely facing openings 24 of adjacent shutters 12 and secured to the storm bar [[38]] 36, lateral movement of the storm bar [[38]] 36 is prevented. FIG. 4 is a partial view, showing the two innermost frame members 16 of a two shutter system. It should be understood that storm bar clips 40 can be used on the outermost lateral frame members 18 as well to further secure the storm bar [[38]] 36 to the shutters 12.

Please replace the last full paragraph on page 10 with the following amended paragraph:

93 Referring to FIG. 7, the reinforcing storm bar [[38]] 36 can be further secured to the surrounding wall 62 utilizing a wall mount 64. While a single wall mount 64 is shown, another wall mount is preferably provided on an opposite side of the building opening.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 10 and ending on page 11 with the following amended paragraph:

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The wall mount 64 is preferably constructed to provide a receptacle 66 for receiving the storm bar ~~[[38]]~~ 36 and securing it to the wall 62. The receptacle 66 of the wall mount 64 can be U-shaped. The wall mount 64 also can include a wall bracket 38 secured to the wall 62 and removably securing the U-shaped receptacle 66. The securement to the wall 62 can occur either through bolting of the U-shaped receptacle 66 or matingly engaging the U-shaped receptacle 66 with a permanent mounting bracket 38 on the wall 62. The wall bracket 38 and the U-shaped receptacle 66 can be removably connected. A preferred connection of the wall bracket 38 and the U-shaped receptacle 66 is a tongue 68 and groove 70 relation. A tongue 68 and groove 70 connection further provides for the storm bar ~~[[38]]~~ 36 to be easily secured by laterally sliding the U-shaped receptacle 66 into place and securing the receptacle 66 to the storm bar ~~[[38]]~~ 36 by fasteners 68, such as bolts and fly nuts. The tongue base 68 forms the bottom of the receptacle 66 to provide a secure, direct engagement between the receptacle 66 and the bracket 38, avoiding any weakened regions of a spaced cantilevered positioning between the tongue and the storm bar ~~receptacle~~ receptacle.